

## **REMARKS**

### **Status of the Claims**

Claims 26, 34-35 and 39-40 are pending and stand rejected. Claims 26 and 39 are currently amended to correct minor informalities therein. The amendment is fully supported by the originally filed specification and/or figures and, thus, no new matter is introduced. No claims are currently cancelled and no new claims are currently added.

Accordingly, claims 26, 34-35 and 39-40 remain pending.

### **Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 26, 34-35 and 39-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lindoff et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,101,224) in view of Vilcocq et al. (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0041638) and Hasson (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2003/0123566).

In response, Applicants filed a Notice of Appeal on March 15, 2010. An Appeal Brief, filed concurrently with this Amendment Accompanying Appeal Brief, is directed to the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). This Amendment Accompanying Appeal Brief is being filed to correct minor informalities in claim 26 and a minor informality in claim 39 that were discovered by the applicants.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing and the concurrently filed Appeal Brief, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims, specifically, claims 26, 34-35 and 39-40, are in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge shortages or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,  
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